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P21724.A03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshiki KINDO et al.

Group Art Unit : 2171

Appl. No. : 09/989,151

Examiner : Hanh B. THAI

Filed : November 21, 2001

Confirmation No. : 9437

For : INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM AND METHOD

**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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JUN 17 2004

Technology Center 2100

Sir :

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §§1.97-1.98, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements that were filed on January 17, 2002 and February 17, 2004, Applicant hereby submits a copy of a European Search Report from the European Patent Office that was mailed on April 21, 2004 with respect to patent family member European Patent Application No. EP 01127877.7, in which the European Patent Examiner cited the following documents:

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 5,872,850 to KLEIN et al., which issued on February 16, 1999;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,020,883 to HERZ et al., which issued on February 1, 2000;
- (3) Master of Science Thesis-Massachusetts Institute of Technology by SHETH, entitled "A Learning Approach to Personalized Information Filtering," published in February 1994, XP002178871, retrieved on September 28, 2001 from [www.media.mit.edu/groups/agents/publications/sheth-thesis.pdf](http://www.media.mit.edu/groups/agents/publications/sheth-thesis.pdf);

(4) An article by K. LANG, entitled "NewsWeeder: Learning to Filter Netnews," published in Machine Learning. Proceedings of the International Conference, XX, XX. on July 9, 1995, at pages 331-339, XP002046557; and

(5) U.S. Patent No. 6,076,082 to KINDO, which issued on June 13, 2000.

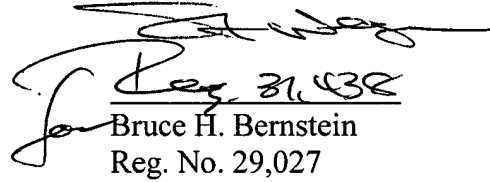
The category of relevance, pertinent portions, and claims to which each document is relevant, as ascertained by the European Examiner applying European rules to the European claims are set forth in the European Search Report.

Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above material and cite the same. Copies of documents (1) and (3)-(5) have previously been submitted in the Information Disclosure Statement filed on February 17, 2004, and thus copies are not attached hereto. A copy of document (2) is attached hereto and all of the documents are listed on the attached PTO-1449 Form. The Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached Form and to return a copy of the completed Form to Applicant with the next official communication in the present application.

Applicant further certifies that document (2) was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement, and thus no fee is required to ensure consideration document (2). Applicant also submits that documents (1) and (3)-(5) were previously submitted, and thus no fee is required to ensure consideration of those documents.

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Toshiki KINDO et al.



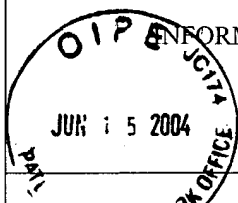
Reg. 31,438  
Bruce H. Bernstein  
Reg. No. 29,027

June 15, 2004  
GREENBLUM & BERNSTEIN, P.L.C.  
1950 Roland Clarke Place  
Reston, VA 20191  
(703) 716-1191

Application No.  
09/989,151

Group  
2171

(Use several sheets if necessary)

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		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
		YES	NO											

		1	Master of Science Thesis-Massachusetts Institute of Technology by SHETH, entitled "A Learning Approach to Personalized Information Filtering," published in February 1994, XP002178871, retrieved on September 28, 2001 from;
			<a href="http://www.media.mit.edu/groups/agents/publications/sheth-thesis.pdf">www.media.mit.edu/groups/agents/publications/sheth-thesis.pdf</a> .
		2	An article by K. LANG, entitled "NewsWeeder: Learning to Filter Netnews," published in <u>Machine Learning. Proceedings of the International Conference, XX, XX.</u> on July 9, 1995, at pages 331-339, XP002046557.

DATE CONSIDERED

\*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.